

Will the broadcast flag interfere with consumers ability to make copies of DTV content for their personal use, either on personal video recorders or removable media?

Fair use of copyrighted materials must include quoting for the purposes of criticism and review. The proposed "broadcast flag" will prevent the kind of quotation that is taken for granted, for example, for books. No similar "publisher flag" has been proposed to prevent people from quoting books, or quoting magazine or newspaper articles. Quotations must be able to include public commentary, not just private use.

Would the broadcast flag requirement limit consumers ability to use their existing electronic equipment (equipment not built to look for the flag) or make it difficult to use older components with new equipment that is compliant with the broadcast flag standard?

There is no clear distinction between "professional" and home users. My son has made several videos that need to be readable on future equipment he will purchase - this ability would be jeopardized by the proposed crippling of consumer electronics.

Would a broadcast flag requirement limit the development of future equipment providing consumers with new options?

A "broadcast flag" requirement will grant a monopoly to "consumer" electronics equipment manufacturers, who will have a tool to prevent people from using general purpose computers to process their own digital video in any way they see fit.

What will be the cost impact, if any, that a broadcast flag requirement would have on consumer electronics equipment?

The "monopoly" or "oligopoly" aspects of the technology will have an obvious economic effect on video equipment available to the consumer.